



## **News Release**

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**

### **910<sup>TH</sup> Airlift Wing (AFRC)**

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#### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**"6-year-old Columbiana boy to be the next  
910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing "Pilot for a Day"**

**DATE: May 27, 2003**

**NUMBER: 03-05-15**

**YOUNGSTOWN AIR RESERVE STATION, OHIO** – Six-year-old Brandon M. Leonelli, of Columbiana, Ohio, will become an honorary Air Force Reserve 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant and a "Pilot for a Day" at the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Thursday, May 29, when he visits the base for a tour and briefings.

Brandon has been in remission, for two years, from Lymphoblastic Lymphoma, a Non Hodgkin's type cancer. He is receiving periodic medical treatment at Tod Children's Hospital in Youngstown.

The purpose of the "Pilot for a Day" program is to reach out to the community by providing a tour and orientation to children who live with a chronic or life threatening disease or illness.

The Pilot for a Day program is financially backed and co-sponsored by MCI of Niles. As part of the program, children are selected to visit the base, become an honorary Air Force Reserve 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, receive a genuine aircrew flight suit and other mementos as well as receive a tour of the base. Also included in the program: a tour of the Life Support shop, firing the Fire Arms Training Simulator, and being taxied aboard a C-130 Hercules aircraft.

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**NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY:** News media representatives are invited and highly encouraged to attend this event. The future of the Mahoning Valley rests with our children who will someday be the leaders of our community. The 910<sup>th</sup> hopes to put a bright spot into the lives of several children who may not be able to envision a very bright future at this point in their lives.

**Interested news media representatives should plan on arriving at the base no later than 9:30 a.m. as the program will begin precisely at 9:45 a.m.** Please contact the 910<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing Public Affairs office at (330) 609-1236 to arrange for your visit.